Modernisation of Textile Mills

267. SHRI PRAGADA KOTAIAH: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) what is the amount of loans and the cost of fiscal and other concessions granted to the textile mills for their modernisation or revival during the Seventh Five Year Plan period; and

(b) what is the number of mills which were modernised and actually revived and the number of workers who actually benefited thereby?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) Under the Textile Modernisation Fund Scheme (TMFS), the amount of loans sanctioned to the textile mills for their modernisation during the Seventh Five Year Plan period is to the tune of Rs. 1367 crores while the actual disbursement was Rs. 783.84 crores.

(b) 357 mills have been sanctioned assistance. Out of these 291 mills of reported by IDBI, have commenced utilisation of assistance. It is difficult to indicate actual number of workers benefited during the Scheme because the assistance is exclusively to the mills.

Excess charge for cotton yarn from Handloom Weavers

268. SHRI PRAGADA KOTAIAH: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the handloom weavers have to pay for cotton yarn 30 per cent extra over and above the price of yarn paid by composite mills for the manufacture of cloth; and

(b) if so, what arrangements have been made to ensure supply of yarn to handloom weavers at prices at which it is available to composite mills?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) The yarn consumed by composite mills and the yarn consumed by handloom weavers are not comparable for the purpose of prices. Government maintains record of yarn prices delivered for civil consumption only.

(b) Does not arise.

Discontent against handing over of Tin Bigha to Bangladesh

269. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN:
SARDAR JAGJIT SINGH AURORA:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the growing discontent against handing over 'Tin Bigha' land to Bangladesh; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof and the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) Yes, Sir; the Government are aware of discontent in the Kuchlibari area and elsewhere regarding this matter.

(b) The 1974 Agreement signed between the Government of India and Bangladesh provides for the leasing in perpatuity to Bangladesh of an area measuring 178 into 85 metres near Tin Bigha in Cooch Behar District of West Bengal. This is for the purpose of connecting the Bangladesh enclave of Dahagram and Angarkota with the Bangladesh maintained so as to enable the Bangladesh Government to exercise their sovereignty over Dahagram and Angarpota. The 1982 Agreement provides the Terms on the basis of which the lease would be implemented

There is no handing over or cession of land involved in the leasing of Tin